

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:OEXC

SUBJECT:AMSPEC WATSON LAETSCH

REF: NEW DELHI 16070

1. REFTEL WAS RELAYED TO LAETSCH.

2. LAETSC; COMMENTS FOLLOW: TEN DAYS IS TOO LONG FOR BOTH CALCUTTA AND UANGALORE. BOTH OF THESE MUSEUMS HAVE SIMILAR OBJECTIVES, AND IT WOULD BE REDUNDANT TO SPEND LONG PERIODS AT BOTH. I WOULD SUGGEST A WEEK AT THE MOST AT ONE, AND A COUPLE OF DAYS AT THE OTHER. I DO HAVE SOME OTHER SUGGESTIONS. I HAVE INTERACTED FOR SEVERAL YEARS WITH FACULTY MEMBERS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MADURAI, AND A NUMBER OF THEM HAVE VISITED THE LAWRENCE HALL OF SCIENCE. THE UNIVERSITY IS CURRENTLY DEVELOPING A COMMUNITY SCIENCE CENTER IN MADURAI; A VERY SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT FOR AN INDIAN UNIVERSITY. CHANCES FOR SUBSEQUENT COLLABORATION WITH THIS PROJECT WOULD BE VERY GOOD.

I VISITED THE COMMUNITY SCIENCE CENTER IN AHMEDABAD LAST
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YEAR, AND I HOPE IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO PAY A RETURN VISIT.

THEY ARE DOING SOME VERY GOOD THINGS, AND AGAIN, THE
OPPORTUNITY FOR FUTURE COLLABORATION IS QUITE GOOD.

I AM WILLING TO HAVE SOME SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS, BUT I AM
NOT ANXIOUS TO EMPHASIZE THIS ACTIVITY. IT IS NOT
UNCOMMON IN INDIA TO BE SO INVOLVED IN LECTURING THAT
THERE IS LITTLE TIME FOR INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS AND
OBSERVATION OF PROGRAMS. POSSIBLE SUBJECTS INCLUDE MY
OWN AS A NUMBER OF TITLE IN SCIENCE EDUCATION, SUCH AS
SCIENCE EDUCATION AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC; THE ROLE OF
MUSEUMS IN SCIENCE EDUCATION; FORMAL AND INFORMAL LEARN-
ING IN SCIENCE AREAS, I WILL PROVIDE SPECIFIC TITLES. INGERSOLL

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